

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 AMMAN 03989 031010Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 ONY-00 /012 W
-----006168 031016Z /11
O 030705Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5961

S E C R E T AMMAN 3989

STADIS////////////////////////////////

FOR NEA/ARN DRAPER ONLY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, PGOV, JO, US
SUBJECT: WASHINGTON VISITS

REF: STATE 111640

1. CONCURRENT WITH ARRIVAL REFTEL, SOME FURTHER DECISIONS WERE MADE HERE ON 1978 JMC MEETING.
2. BIN SHAKER, AFTER TALKING WITH ME AND LATER WITH KING HUSSEIN, DECIDED TO ACCEPT THE JUNE 18 MEETING DATE AND WILL COME HIMSELF. HE RECEIVED A LETTER FROM HSLMTFFERT##WHICH WAS APPARENTLY SENT TO HIM DIRECTLY AND HE SUBSEQUENTLY PROVIDED US WITH A COPY.
3. IN ADDITION, BIN SHAKER HAS ALSO DECIDED TO ACCEPT THE NAVY INVITATION (STATE 109136) TO VISIT A CARRIER OFF THE VIRGINIA CAPES ON JUNE 21-22.
4. IN LIGHT OF YOUR CABLE (REFTEL) I DO NOT WANT TO GO THROUGH ANY MORE POSTPONEMENTS AND OTHER PERAMBULATIONS ON THE JMC. HOWEVER, IF POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS ON A ROYAL VISIT MIGHT MAKE THIS NECESSARY,

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THEN WE SHOULD KEEP ABOVE INFORMATION A LITTLE BIT ON THE BACK BURNER UNTIL THINGS BECOME CLEAR. IF POSITIVE INFORMATION POINTS TO DATES SUBSEQUENT TO JUNE 18, THEN I BELIEVE WE SHOULD GO AHEAD WITH JMC AS PLANNED. YOU COULD THEN SIGNAL ME IN THIS CHANNEL AND I COULD REPORT IT OFFICIALLY FOR ALL CONCERNED.

5. YESTERDAY CROWN PRINCE ASKED TO SEE ME. HE RAISED THE QUESTION OF HIS PREVIOUS REQUEST FOR A MEETING IN WASHINGTON. HE DID SO IN THE LIGHT OF THE FACT THAT HE BELIEVED KING WAS GOING AT THE END OF MAY. HE SAID UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES HE WOULD WISH TO DOWNPLAY THE REQUEST. WHEN I TOLD HIM KING HAD DECIDED NOT TO GO HE SAW EQUALLY GOOD REASONS FOR NOT PUSHING ON HIS OWN REQUEST. WE BELIEVE THE HASSAN PART OF THE PROBLEM IS NOW UNDER SEMI-CONTROL. CLEARLY YOU WILL BE ABLE TO GAUGE MORE READILY WHAT THIS WILL MEAN IN LIGHT OF ANY NEW DEVELOPMENTS.

6. KING IS CURRENTLY IN AQABA. I CLEARLY WILL WANT TO SEE HIM BEFORE I LEAVE FOR TRUNCATED HOME LEAVE ON SUNDAY, MAY 7. CAN YOU GIVE ME ANY INDICATION ON WHETHER INSTRUCTIONS WILL ARRIVE IN TIME TO DO SO? MORNING, SATURDAY, MAY 6 WOULD PROBABLY BE LATEST INSTRUCTION ARRIVAL TIME TO ALLOW ME TIME TO SEE HIM IN AQABA AND LEAVE AS SCHEDULED.
PICKERING

NOTE BY OC/T: ##AS RECEIVED.

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NNN

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